**National Commission for Minorities**

2533. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission for Minorities has set up an inquiry commission to investigate the communal situation of the minorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken on the recommendations/report of the inquiry commission?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Commission for Minorities has constituted a two-member commission on 2nd January, 1997 consisting of Shri Zafar Ali Naqvi, Member, National Commission for Minorities and Shri Joginder Pal, Joint Secretary, National Commission for Minorities to inquire into matters relating to past and recent communal problems of the District of Meerut and the difficulties of the local minority educational institutions in duly enjoying their Constitutional and legal rights.

(c) No recommendation/report has been submitted by this inquiry commission so far.

*[English]*

**Seizure of Arms on Gujarat Coast**

2534. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :
SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI :
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge stockpile of arms and explosives/Pakistani mechanised boats with arms and ammunition seized on the Gujarat coast during the last three years till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the value of the seized arms and ammunition; and

(c) the steps taken to check the smuggling of arms and illegal migration of Bangladeshis through Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) As per reports available, no arms/ammunition were seized from Pakistani mechanised boats on the Gujarat coast during the last 3 years; However, on 17th January, 1997, a fishing boat was seized near Koteshwar in creek area containing the following arms and ammunition :

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) | Pistol | 19 Nos. |
| (b) | Revolver | 1 No. |
| (c) | Pistol magazine | 32 Nos. |
| (d) | AK Magazine | 7 Nos. |
| (e) | AK 56 Rifle | 5 Nos. |
| (f) | Belt action sniper Rifle | 6 Nos. |
| (g) | Magazine of S/Rifle | 2 Nos. |
| (h) | Amn. Assorted | 1320 Nos. |
| (i) | Carry bag of AK 56 | 1 No. |

The cost of the above items which are of foreign make is not known. The following steps have been taken to check the smuggling of arms and ammunition and infiltration through the Indo-Pak border.

(i) Additional Bns have been sanctioned/ deployed under expansion plan to reduce the gaps between the BOPs. However, a few Bns have been withdrawn from border for IS duties.

(ii) Patrolling/Nakas have been increasd/ intensified.

(iii) Border patrolling have been intensified by providing jeeps and motor cycles.

(iv) Mounted patrolling on horse, camels and tractors is being done.

(v) OP towers have been erected.

(vi) Binoculars, goggles, twin telescopes, PNV binoculars and hand held search lights have been provided for enhanced vigilance on the border.

(vii) Border fence/flood lighting has been done in Punjab and Rajasthan. Feasibility studies for a modified type of fencing in Ranon area of Gujarat is also being undertaken.

(viii) Boats/motor boats have/are being provided for patrolling riverline area.

(ix) Border road/track are being constructed/ developed for vehicular patrolling.

**World Bank Aided Projects**

2535. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought clearance from the Ministry for the road projects to be undertaken in the State under the World Bank aided project;